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105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4736

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure the proper payment of approved nursing and paramedical education programs under the Medicare Program.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 1998

Mr. BENTSEN (for himself, Mr. CRANE, Mr. GANSKE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STARK, and Mr. JEFFERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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# A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure the proper payment of approved nursing and paramedical education programs under the Medicare Program.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "Medicare Nursing and Paramedical Education Act of 1998".

**SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF NURSING AND PARAMEDICAL EDUCATION COSTS IN CALCULATING MEDICARE+CHOICE PAYMENT RATE.**

(a) EXCLUDING COSTS IN CALCULATING PAYMENT RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1853(c)(3)(C)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–23(c)(3)(C)(i)) is amended—

(A) by striking "and" at the end of subclause (I);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subclause (II) and inserting ", and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subclause:

"(III) for costs attributable to approved nursing and paramedical education programs under section 1861(v).".

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) apply in determining the annual per capita rate of payment for years beginning with 2000.

(b) PAYMENT TO HOSPITALS OF NURSING AND PARAMEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM COSTS FOR MEDICARE+CHOICE ENROLLEES.—Section 1886(d) of

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1 such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)) is amended by adding
2 at the end the following new paragraph:
3 "(12) ADDITIONAL PAYMENT OF NURSING AND
4 PARAMEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM COSTS FOR
5 MANAGED CARE ENROLLEES.—
6 "(A) IN GENERAL.—For portions of cost
7 reporting periods occurring on or after January
8 1, 2000, the Secretary shall provide for an ad-
9 ditional payment amount to any subsection (d)
10 hospital that has approved nursing and para-
11 medical education programs for each discharge
12 of any individual who is enrolled under a risk-
13 sharing contract with an eligible organization
14 under section 1876 and who is entitled to bene-
15 fits under part A or any individual who is en-
16 rolled with a Medicare+Choice organization
17 under part C.
18 "(B) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT.—The
19 amount of the payment under this paragraph
20 with respect to any applicable discharge shall be
21 equal to an amount estimated by the Secretary
22 of the average per discharge amount that would
23 otherwise have been paid to the subsection (d)
24 hospital to reflect the costs to the hospital of
25 approved nursing and paramedical education

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1 programs under section 1861(v) if the individ-
2 uals had not been enrolled as described in sub-
3 paragraph (A).".

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